

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 25, 2019

Governor's Veto Message Regarding Senate Bill 146

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on June 25th, 2019, I have vetoed Senate Bill 146, relative to eliminating the waiting period before eligibility to receive unemployment benefits.

This bill would negatively impact the balance of the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund. New Hampshire currently has a healthy fund balance and among the lowest unemployment rates in the nation. However, in a down economy, we need to be able to provide necessary services. Additionally, 44 other States and Territories have a waiting week for unemployment compensation. This bill would make New Hampshire inconsistent with best practices from across the county. Finally, while well-intentioned, this bill adds costs that make the system less sustainable and less able to respond in times of need.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed Senate Bill 146.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher T. Sununu

Governor